FACULTY RETIREMENT PLAN

Harvard contributes, on a monthly basis, an amount equal to a percentage of your eligible pay based on your age and earnings to the Retirement Income Plan for Teaching Faculty. You are enrolled automatically once you’ve completed a six-month waiting period, with retroactive contributions.

ELIGIBILITY

You are eligible to participate in the plan if you meet all these criteria:

• Are at least age 21.
• Have completed the six-month waiting period.
• Hold a professorial appointment or, if your primary appointment is as a member of the teaching faculty, carry at least a half-time teaching appointment.

You will receive an enrollment kit with more details shortly before your waiting period ends.

HARVARD CONTRIBUTION

Harvard contributes to your plan as follows:

• Under age 40: an amount equal to 5% of your eligible pay contributed, up to the Social Security wage base ($127,200 in 2017) and 10% for earnings above the wage base, up to the IRS limits in place for that year ($270,000 in 2017).
• Over age 40: an amount equal to 10% of your eligible pay contributed, up to the Social Security wage base and 15% for earnings above the wage base up to the IRS limits in place for that year.

You decide how this contribution should be invested in mutual funds from Fidelity, TIAA, and/or Vanguard. If you make no other election, this contribution will automatically be invested in a Vanguard target-date fund closest to the year you turn 65.

Vesting in the plans

The vesting period is three years of vesting service, or shorter if you reach age 65, become totally disabled (as defined by the plan) or die.

Accessing retirement funds

If you are vested when you leave Harvard, you can receive the University’s accumulated contributions, plus any earnings on those amounts payable from the investment companies. The vendors provide a variety of payment options. Your benefits are taxable to you when you receive them as income.

Beneficiaries

You should designate a beneficiary(s) for your benefit by contacting your investment company directly. You should review your beneficiary information periodically, to ensure that it reflects any family or personal changes.